

CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, I will comment on all my findings based on the analysis I have written in Chapter Three. The findings contain the type of non-observance of the maxims that the characters do, the reason why the failure of observing maxims leads to humor and the analysis of the humor. This chapter also becomes the conclusion of this thesis.

The aim of this thesis is to reveal the occurrence of non-observance of the Gricean maxims in building the humor. There are nineteen data, which is taken from ten scenes in *2 Broke Girls* TV Series Season 1. The result of the analysis is that flouting a maxim plays a crucial role in creating the humor and hilarious situations in this TV Series. In fact, out of the five types of non-observance of the maxims, almost all of them are flouting of a maxim. There is only one data which violates the maxim; infringing a maxim, opting out a maxim and suspending a maxim are not to be found.

As previously mentioned, the main reason why the audience finds *2 Broke Girls* TV Series amusing is because of the unique characteristics of the leading and supporting roles. Each character has a peculiar way to convey

something. One of the main characters, Max Black, tends to be sarcastic all the time. Her utterance is usually bitter and sharp. The audience will eventually get used to her sarcastic character. However, they will not be able to predict what she is going to say. Max's unexpected way to respond to something never fails to make the audience laugh.

Another result from analyzing the data in this TV Series is the interesting relationship between Max's character and the failure to observe the maxims which commits. According to the data, Max has a tendency to flout the maxim more than the other characters because she often uses sarcasm in her utterances. Her sarcastic behaviour is probably because she comes from a poor background and a broken family; therefore, she always sees things bitterly. It is shown throughout the series that Max is extremely sarcastic. She constantly mocks others. She also insults and offends people without much thought. Therefore, she most frequently flouts the maxim.

Based on the data I have gathered, the mostly used non-observance of the Gricean maxims is flouting the maxim of manner, with the total of eleven occurrences. The reason why the characters of this TV Series flout this maxim is because they do not express their thoughts in a straight-forward manner. They give long-winded answers with the purpose of making the audience find the implied meaning within their utterance. In this case, the long and unclear answer covers up the implicature, which is usually not that funny. However, the characters of this TV series are able to convey it wittily and make the scene hilarious. As for Sophie, she seldom gives a clear and brief answer. It makes her sound chatty and talkative.

The second type of non-observance of the maxim which is mostly found in this TV Series is flouting the maxim of reason. There are nine occurrences and Max commits seven of them. Max flouts this maxim because being sarcastic, she often ignores other people's goals in asking questions. As mentioned before, Max usually says something without much thought, which leads her to give irrelevant answers. The analysis of the data shows that giving an unrelated answer to the topic at hand is the easiest way to make the audience laugh. This is probably because at first the audience pays attention more to irrelevance of the answer before they consider another aspect of the joke.

There are only four occurrences of flouting the maxim of quality found in the data. The analysis shows that Max usually flouts the maxim of quality because of, once again, her bitter and sarcastic character. Max often has a bad prejudice over something. Therefore, she casually says what she believes to be true although she does not have enough proof. Flouting the maxim of quality gives less effect to the audience because it is not easy to convey disbelief in a funny way.

Flouting the maxim of quantity occurred three times in the data. It shows that giving more or less information has less impact on the audience. The reason is that if someone gives less information, there is a significant probability that the audience would not be able to understand what they are talking about because they are not explicit enough. On the other hand, it is likely to be boring if someone gives too much information.

The least frequently used non-observed maxim is violating the maxim. The main character of this TV Series, Max, uses the violation of a maxim as a strategy to deceive others. It is my opinion that violating the maxim is not only

used for bad intention. It can be seen that the motive of Max misleading another character is for a good purpose. Compared to flouting the maxim, violating the maxim seems less effective to make the audience laugh because it needs more effort to understand the joke. The audience have to know the truth first, or else they will not find the joke funny.

All types of flouting a maxim can be found in the data. Thus, it can be concluded that flouting a maxim is the most frequently used type of non-observance of Gricean maxim among the characters of this TV Series. However, the punch line also has a great importance in building the humor. All data in this thesis shows that the humor occurs when the outcome ruins the audience's prediction. It catches the audience off-guard and gives rise to humor.

I hope that this thesis will be useful for the readers, especially students taking Linguistics as their major. For further researchers who are interested in analyzing humor in TV series. I would like to suggest *2 Broke Girls* TV Series Seasons 2-4. I believe that this TV Series can provide many interesting data which are worthy to be analyzed. Lastly, I hope this thesis will help the readers to understand more about the failure to observe the maxim as it happens in everyday life.

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